

NO. 5:13-CV-0053-D

Defendants

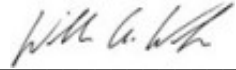
Case 5:13-cv-00053-D Document 53 Filed 01/06/14 Page 1 of 3

executing discovery or resolving discovery disputes.” *Anderson v. Reliance Standard Life Ins. Co.*, No. WQD-11-1188, 2011 WL 4828891, *1 (D. Md. Oct. 11, 2011) (citing *Mancia v. Mayflower Textile Servs. Co.*, 253 F.R.D. 354, 357–58 (D. Md. 2008)). The Federal Rules of Civil Procedure unambiguously require parties to conduct discovery in a cooperative fashion. Although the court is mindful of Plaintiff's pro se status, it does not excuse her from compliance with the requirements of the Federal Rules or orders of this court. *See Loftin v. Nationwide Mut. Ins. Co.*, No. 7:09–CV–118–F, 2010 WL 4117404, at *3 (E.D.N.C. Oct.18, 2010).

In the present motion to compel, Defendant contends that the Plaintiff has failed to sufficiently respond to discovery requests, despite being afforded additional time in which to do so, and has failed to respond to communications. Plaintiff has neither filed an opposition to the motion nor contested the allegations therein. A review of Defendant's discovery requests indicates that they are within the permissible scope of discovery. Therefore, Plaintiff shall serve her complete, supplemental responses to Defendants' interrogatories and requests for production of documents no later than January 17, 2014. To the extent that she maintains a privilege or an objection to the discovery sought, or does not have the information requested, she shall fully note so in her supplemental responses.

Plaintiff is reminded that she must comply with this Court's Orders, the Local Rules, and the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and that a refusal to comply with this order may result in monetary sanctions as well as dismissal of this action with prejudice. Although pro se litigants are given liberal treatment by courts, the right to self-representation does not “exempt a party from compliance with relevant rules of procedural and substantive law.” *Traquith v. Zuck*, 710 F.2d 90, 95 (2nd Cir.1983); *and see, Haines v. Kerner*, 404 U.S. 519 (1972).

SO ORDERED in Chambers at Raleigh, North Carolina on January 6, 2014.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William A. Webb", is positioned above a horizontal line.

WILLIAM A. WEBB
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE